U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Criminal Justice Information Services Division

CJIS Division
2018 Year in Review

Delivering the power to connect, identify, and know

CJIS Division
2018 Year in Review

The mission of the CJIS Division is to equip our law enforcement, national security, and intelligence community partners with the criminal justice information they need to protect the United States while preserving civil liberties.

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The CJIS Link
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Want to keep up with the CJIS Division? Stay current on our division's programs, services, and successes by following our news blog, the *CJIS Link*. Here, you'll learn about new initiatives at the CJIS Division, changes or enhancements to CJIS services, and success stories from investigations in which law enforcement agencies used CJIS programs or systems, *and much more.*

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2018 marked with innovation and partnership

**A message from the Assistant Director
of the Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division**

As the Assistant Director of the FBI's Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division, it is my honor to present the *CJIS Division 2018 Year in Review* publication. Last year was, like all others, devoted to exemplary support for the division's partners. The CJIS Division's technology, innovation, and, most of all, its people continued to provide the law enforcement and criminal justice community the ability to connect, to identify, and to know.

One significant transition the CJIS Division made in fiscal year (FY) 2018 was to adopt an agile software development approach. This allows for adaptive planning and prioritization of the most valuable services and enhancements while providing for rapid responses to change. This innovative approach will lead to many benefits for our users.

The strategic transition to an agile approach is just one of many innovations that the division has developed to reach its mission of equipping our partners with information they need to protect the United States. I invite you to learn about what is new and what is coming for the systems and programs that make up CJIS Division's services by taking a deeper dive into the division's achievements in the pages of this report.

Douglas E. Lindquist
Assistant Director of the FBI's CJIS Division

National Crime Information Center

At the speed of success

In its sixth decade as an essential law enforcement tool, the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) didn't slow down during fiscal year (FY) 2018—quite the opposite: it's faster and more efficient than ever. NCIC provided crucial criminal justice information to local, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement agencies with sub-second response times on an incredible average of 10,136,826 times a day. Beyond the automated information sharing, NCIC staff provided investigative and operational support to law enforcement through off-line searches more than 36,000 times, resulting in more than 8,400 arrests, and more than $240 million in seized and recovered property in FY 2018.

NCIC continued to improve its technical processes during the year to better meet the needs of users. For example, the Continuous Evaluation (CE) process reduced the need for an authorized federal agency to resubmit transactions to vet and monitor individuals already in trusted populations. During FY 2018, NCIC personnel moved millions of transactions from NCIC's operational environment to its CE background process. This transition resulted in a more efficient use of the system's resources and improved NCIC's already nearly instantaneous response time.

In addition, the NCIC Tribal Engagement Program (TEP) made great strides in FY 2018. NCIC staff collaborated with tribal partners through onsite visits to federally recognized tribes throughout the country. The TEP provides guidance to all 573 federally recognized tribes regarding policy and procedures for entering and maintaining criminal information in various CJIS systems.

Enhanced multimedia to improve NCIC images

In 2019, the NCIC 3rd Generation Project, or N3G, will begin development of enhanced multimedia, which will result in increased resolution in NCIC images. The upgrade will integrate different multimedia formats to help users more easily identify persons and property and provide access to Portable Document Format files, or PDFs, of warrants and protection orders. N3G will also continue testing the National Information Exchange Model Extensible Markup Language, which gives users more flexibility in customizing their NCIC messaging. The CJIS Division also plans to update the NCIC name search algorithm—a top request from NCIC users—which will increase the speed and accuracy of matches in the system.

NCIC helps locate missing teens

During FY 2018, an officer with the New Jersey State Police (NJSP) contacted NCIC personnel to request assistance with a case where the NJSP was looking for a 13-year-old female who was missing. Sources indicated that the juvenile was suicidal and traveling with a 19-year-old male.

NCIC personnel assisted the NJSP with adding a person of interest in the missing juvenile case to the existing NCIC entry. This additional information aided in the apprehension of the pair in Ohio, which led to the juvenile's safe return and the 19-year-old's extradition to New Jersey. The pair told officers that once they ran out of money, they intended to commit suicide. The connections made through NCIC helped locate and possibly save the lives of these young people.

National Instant Criminal Background Check System

Checking firearm transactions for 20 years and counting

In 2018, the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) celebrated 20 years of helping to enhance public safety by assisting Federal Firearms Licensees in identifying individuals disqualified from purchasing firearms. Fiscal year (FY) 2018 also wrapped up as the second highest-volume year in the program's history.

Even though the program deployed new software in 2016, the NICS staff continue to identify opportunities to improve and fine tune features in the updated system, proving good can always be better. This year's improvement highlights include tapping into the system's ability to automate determinations to improve the overall turnaround time for firearm purchasers. In FY 2018, the system automatically denied 22,536 transactions, accounting for 22 percent of all federal denials. In addition, the new system updates offer an improved user experience for NICS E-Check customers, as E-Checks now account for 80 percent of incoming federal background checks.

It is crucial for NICS staff to receive the most up-to-date and complete criminal history information in order to allow them to make the correct decision regarding a person's eligibility to purchase a firearm. Several improvements support that mission—including the passage of the federal Fix NICS Act, which is aimed at ensuring maximum coordination and automation

of reporting information to NICS by state, tribal, and federal agencies. In addition, as part of a directive by the Attorney General, NICS staff worked closely with the military to increase reporting, which resulted in an impressive 370 percent rise in military records submitted to NICS Indices. (NICS Indices contain biographic entries on individuals who have been prohibited from possessing or receiving a firearm.)

Increased self-sufficiency

NICS staff members are working to increase efficiency and streamline the background check process by adding additional resources to check for disqualifying information. For example, during 2019, NICS plans to use the FBI's National Data Exchange (N-DEx) system as a secondary resource for making eligibility determinations. N-DEx may contain additional clarifying or supplemental information not available in a criminal history record to assist NICS examiners in making firearms eligibility determinations.

No firearms for felons

During FY 2018, a NICS examiner was researching a firearm transaction for an individual with a pending assault charge. Based on information in the individual's criminal history, the NICS examiner identified that the transaction would require additional research. The examiner reviewed the relevant jurisdiction's criminal history Web site and found an additional felony charge that had been filed earlier that day. The examiner contacted local authorities and learned the individual had an active warrant for the charge but had not yet been arrested. The subject's most recent felony charges were for explicit threats made toward a complainant and her child. The examiner received the victim's complaint, which detailed the subject's explicit threats. Upon reading the graphic report, the examiner called the district to request the subject's bond conditions and to verify whether he could possess a firearm. The district clerk advised the subject had been arrested on the felony warrant and was currently incarcerated. The NICS

examiner received a handwritten order from the magistrate indicating a bond condition that the subject could not possess a firearm of any kind. The NICS examiner's persistence uncovered the information necessary to deny this firearm transaction and possibly prevent future transactions.

National Data Exchange System

N-DEx expands and looks to the cloud

Since its deployment 10 years ago, the National Data Exchange (N-DEx) System has continued to grow, expanding with each evolution the access law enforcement and criminal justice agencies have to hundreds of millions of searchable records from local, state, tribal, and federal sources. Over the past decade, the system has evolved to better meet users' needs, and N-DEx staff continually anticipate demands for the future.

More and more agencies sharing information through N-DEx

During fiscal year (FY) 2018, 625 new criminal justice agencies began contributing data to N-DEx. N-DEx System data contributors span more than 7,200 agencies in 44 states and contribute nearly 460 million records. N-DEx also provides access to more than 318 million records through a federated search query, from the Department of Homeland Security, United States National Central Bureau/International Criminal Police Organization (known as INTERPOL), National Crime Information Center System, and the Interstate Identification Index.

Furthermore, 72 of the 100 largest local and state departments now contribute data to N-DEx.

The number of participating agencies is not the only thing "growing" in N-DEx. During FY 2018, staff enhanced N-DEx's search capabilities, leading to increased usage of the system. Users conducted more than 20 million searches of N-DEx this year—a 54 percent increase from the previous year's total.

A year of better collaboration, improvements, and updates

To help users more efficiently benefit from everything N-DEx has to offer, staff successfully implemented an extensive, cost-effective distance learning capability. Through this initiative, N-DEx provided training and support to all 56 FBI field offices and 108 agencies.

Improvements to the batch query function allowed users to successfully manage large populations under criminal justice supervision (such as probation and parole) and to identify and apprehend high-priority absconders and fugitives.

N-DEx staff finalized technical enhancements which will provide crucial access to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) personnel, who will use N-DEx as a secondary source during background checks in FY 2019. Similarly, N-DEx will be used by approved federal agency personnel who determine candidates' suitability for federal employment, credentialing, and related federal matters.

Additional data, easier access on its way

N-DEx plans to further its expansion throughout the criminal justice community during FY 2019 by providing authorized users with access to new data sources, including databases such as the Innocence Lost Database managed by the FBI's

Violent Crimes Against Children Unit. These new sources will enable investigators and analysts to connect evidence of child exploitation by providing access to sex-trafficking-related information, victim biometrics, and lists of suspected offenders and their known associates.

N-DEx staff will continue to focus on migrating N-DEx to a government-approved secure cloud computing environment in FY 2019. This initiative will provide users with more flexible and easier access to N-DEx data and services for many years to come.

N-DEx helps uncover multiple-state theft ring
The "2018 N-DEx Success Story of the Year" featured the case of four subjects involved in a theft at a cellular phone store in Southaven, Mississippi. Although it was a misdemeanor offense, the Southaven Police Department (PD) launched a highly publicized investigation to deter criminals in its jurisdiction. After apprehending two uncooperative subjects, a detective, who possessed only some basic descriptors, used the N-DEx System to quickly identify additional accomplices. He also uncovered a much deeper web of criminal activity: all four subjects were involved in a felony commercial-theft organization that crossed multiple states.

Two of the subjects were convicted on numerous charges, and two remained wanted by the Southaven PD on nonextradition warrants. A detective from Southaven PD said, "Without the powerful resources of N-DEx, the investigation would have likely ended with misdemeanor charges on only two of the four subjects."

Law Enforcement Enterprise Portal
Your portal to law enforcement services

The Law Enforcement Enterprise Portal (LEEP) continues to be an essential component of criminal investigations across the country by providing a safe and secure online locale to monitor and share information among agencies during an event. When working a criminal case, all involved agencies–regardless of their location–can obtain real-time information from LEEP. The LEEP team continually strives to provide exemplary services and new, useful resources to support modern policing.

Continuous improvements and innovations
In May, LEEP's new online collaboration service, JusticeConnect, became accessible to local, state, tribal, territorial, and federal partners. Designed to be "social media with a purpose," this mission-focused service allows law enforcement partners to securely share information and knowledge beyond organizations and across jurisdictions. Through online forums and blogs, partners can communicate with experts, share information and ideas, and receive feedback with criminal investigations. In a continuing effort to enhance the system, LEEP staff members are already planning to upgrade JusticeConnect in 2019 by adding a chat functionality to the system that includes instant messaging, an online meeting function, instant polling, and a user online presence indicator (such as "available," "busy," or "offline").

During fiscal year (FY) 2018, improvements to the LEEP Services Portlet on the home page made navigating easier by improving the search and bookmark capabilities. Users can now mark frequently visited sites as favorites to save time. The Virtual Command Center (VCC) also benefited from enhanced search

capabilities and streamlined administrative functions during FY 2018. In addition, LEEP users enjoyed an extension to the activity requirements. In the past, user's accounts would close after 35 days of inactivity. In FY 2018, LEEP staff improved accessibility in the system by adjusting it so user's accounts will remain active by logging in once every 90 days.

LEEP's one-and-done reputation as the wellspring for law enforcement resources grew in the past year as new components were incorporated. The newly added FBI Laboratory Contributor Portal allows non-FBI law enforcement contributors to submit requests for laboratory examinations, check the status of casework, and retrieve released laboratory reports. The addition of the Protective Intelligence eXchange [PIX] helps law enforcement agencies assess the risk posed to a protected individual from a person of interest.

LEEP reaches new heights
For FY 2018, the LEEP VCC service recorded the highest usage since its inception in 1995 by opening more than 1,500 VCCs. During this time, 41 FBI field offices, 22 Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) field offices, as well as ATF Special Operations Division units opened VCCs through LEEP.

LEEP reached a major milestone by receiving more than one million hits in March—the highest monthly number since its inception. These record numbers are due to the continued growth and refinement of LEEP, through implementation of new services, improvement of site functionality, enhancement of search capabilities, and collaboration with agencies to increase the availability of valuable resources such as information sharing sites (e.g., eGuardian), investigative aids (e.g., Facial
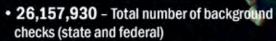
Analysis Comparison and Evaluation Services, National Data Exchange), and virtual training.

LEEP aids narcotics investigation
During FY 2018, FBI agents used LEEP to help coordinate an arrest operation during a high-profile narcotics investigation. The investigation resulted in the execution of multiple search warrants in several states and led to the arrests of 22 individuals. The FBI Washington Field Office used the VCC event board to post updates and track progress during the investigation. LEEP played a vital role in keeping leaders informed during the entire operation and allowed the FBI to shift resources based on immediate operational needs.

CJIS Division Fiscal Year 2018 by the Numbers

National Instant Criminal Background Check System

- **26,157,930** – Total number of background checks (state and federal)
  This was the second highest total ever since program inception
- **102,233** – Total number of federal denials
- **80%** – Percentage of NICS federal transactions submitted via the NICS E-check system

National Crime Information Center

Total Transactions
3,724,896,320

Total Number of Records in the System
15,582,603

Average Daily Transactions
10,203,008

Biometric ID Services
Next Generation Identification

- **75,616,946** – Total number of Criminal fingerprints in the repository
- **33,865,025** – Total number of Criminal full face frontal images used in comparisons. This includes 15,903,227 unique individuals
- **48,880** – Number of processed Facial Recognition Searches (FRS) for active investigations
- **70,128,326** – Number of fingerprint receipts/processed
- **192,132** – Average daily total of fingerprint receipts/processed
- **7 minutes 44 seconds** – Average criminal fingerprint response time
- **22 minutes 29 seconds** – Average civil fingerprint response time
- **17 minutes 41 seconds** – Average response time for searches of the Interstate Photo System (mugshots)

.019 seconds – FY 2018 average response time for NCIC transactions

National Data Exchange

- **20,325,434** – Number of N-DEx searches
  Up 54% over FY 2017

- **318,777,585** – Total number of Federated Records*

- **459,541,153** – Total number of stored records

- **72** of the largest 100 law enforcement agencies in the United States contribute data to the N-DEx system

* Federated Records are outside of the N-DEx system (DHS, INTERPOL, NCIC, III)

Public Access Line

- **732,661** – Total number of E-Tips processed

- **587,475** – Total calls answered

- **55,128** – Total number of tips submitted to investigators

CJIS Information Technology

- Operating all CJIS Systems an average of **99.9%** of the time

- Uses the "agile" process for adaptive planning

- Is committed to "Cloud First" strategies

Delivering the power to connect, identify, and know

Uniform Crime Reporting

True to its past, with an eye to its future

As one of the oldest programs in the FBI, the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program continues to maintain its balance of adapting to change but staying true to its founding principles. During fiscal year (FY) 2018, UCR staff focused on transitioning its law enforcement data contributors to the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). In addition, staff made strides toward modernizing the program and now has its sights set on the national collection of data on use of force.

All in with the new: the transition to incident-based reporting

Beginning in 1930, law enforcement reported a summary, or simple count, of crimes that occurred in their jurisdictions, but it wasn't until 1989 when a limited number of contributors first submitted incident-based data, which included many characteristics of crime occurrences. The number of contributors has grown slowly since then; for the 2017 UCR publications, 41.5 percent of agencies submitted their data via NIBRS. As the January 1, 2021, deadline to report via NIBRS fast approaches, law enforcement agencies continue to steadily move to the more comprehensive incident-based method of crime reporting. To speed up the transition, UCR staff members met with law enforcement partners to help them strategize their move and gain better understanding of its advantages. This resulted in more than 10,820 agencies committing to the shift to NIBRS by the 2021 deadline.

Not the same old, same old: UCR getting modern

During FY 2018, the UCR Program continued its modernization efforts through the Crime Data Explorer (CDE). This modern interface provides accurate and timely data that law enforcement agencies, the media, academia, and the American public want to know about their town, city, state, or for the country as a whole.

Also, to keep up with a constantly changing technical environment, the UCR Program launched its UCR-Technical Refresh in June. This modernization project created a more robust system that allowed the UCR Program to change its approach to managing data and move toward automated processes for data collection. For example, this initiative decreased the amount of time needed for processing the data (reduced from 6 days to 31 hours), returning errors and warnings (from 1 day to no more than 30 minutes), and identifying outliers and data quality questions (from 5 days to 49 minutes). These enhancements make UCR an easier-to-use data management tool, which offers greater efficiency in data collection, processing, feedback, and query capabilities.

National Use-of-Force Data Collection within view

The UCR Program is anticipating the launch of its newest endeavor, the National Use-of-Force Data Collection, after the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) granted its approval in September. UCR Program staff have worked closely with the OMB and its law enforcement partners to satisfy the requirements and recommendations for data collection and reporting. By the end of FY 2018, approximately 500 agencies are prepared to submit their incident data. The National Use-of-Force Data Collection will begin collecting official data on January 1, 2019, and plans to release a state status report in April 2019. In addition, a mid-year report, comprised of data from the first six months of 2019, is set to be published in August 2019.

Mississippi becomes the 50th state UCR Program
During FY 2018, thanks to the support and efforts of the FBI's UCR Program, law enforcement agencies in Mississippi committed to creating their own state UCR program. Once it is operational, all 50 states will have a central UCR contact that serves as a conduit to channel crime data directly to the national UCR Program.

Biometric Identification Services

Expanding biometric databases by getting our hands on palmprints

Although the FBI has maintained the nation's fingerprint files for nearly a century, the ability to nationally share palmprints is much more recent—in fact, the Next Generation Identification (NGI) National Palm Print System (NPPS) celebrated its fifth anniversary during fiscal year (FY) 2018. This national repository of more than 16 million unique palmprints has dramatically improved and consolidated law enforcement's access to palmprints previously stored within individual local, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement agency databases. During FY 2018, an additional palm validation process also led to the successful validation of 389,678 of 451,171 palmprints that previously failed enrollment.

In addition, CJIS biometric images specialists converted 50,000 hardcopy, major-case prints into electronic format. These high-priority, high-profile palmprints, collected from known and suspected terrorists at detainee camps (e.g., Guantanamo Bay, Afghanistan, and Iraq) are now available for future latent searches.

Identifying difficult fingerprints and updating backgrounds
The NGI System recently improved its algorithm search of the Unsolved Latent File (ULF), which contains latent prints submitted by local, state, and other federal agencies. These searches have produced leads that have resulted in numerous identifications in homicide and kidnapping investigations. To date, ULF searches using the new algorithm resulted in the identification of nearly 5,000 new suspects of major criminal cases associated with current and cold case homicides and kidnappings, as well as terrorism investigations involving improvised explosive devices.

Another fingerprint service NGI provides to agencies is notifications and updates on their employees, licensees, volunteers, and other authorized individuals. The service, known as NGI Rap Back, added 1,242,605 new subscription enrollments and returned 8,074 Rap Back notifications in FY 2018, resulting in the removal of unsuitable employees from positions of trust in institutions like daycares and nursing homes.

Face value
Biometrics isn't just about palmprints or fingerprints; it's about faces, too. CJIS staff worked with our law enforcement partners to increase the number of face photos (criminal mugshots) retained in NGI's Interstate Photo System. The image stockpile has grown from 28 million face photos in FY 2017 to more than 33 Million in FY 2018. This service has provided law enforcement with investigative leads that have assisted in identifying fugitives and, in some cases, resulted in their capture. One such example is the photo of an associate of an FBI Ten Most Wanted Fugitive being sought for a homicide. The face recognition search of the associate guided investigators to the fugitive's location and his eventual arrest in early 2018.

NGI, NCIC working hand-in-hand

The CJIS Division is improving communication between NGI and the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), especially when it comes to wanted persons, immigration violators, and sex offenders. An indicator in NGI now links to information related to that person in NCIC. This indicator obtains data from NCIC entries and updates individual history summaries, ensuring the information within NCIC records is accurate and current in the NGI System.

NGI helps identify deceased subject

During FY 2018, the Cuyahoga County (Ohio) Regional Forensic Science Laboratory submitted the fingerprints of an unknown deceased subject to the CJIS Division. The fingerprints were processed through NGI, which yielded negative results. Collaborative efforts with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) allowed CJIS Division staff to search the DHS's Automated Biometric Identification System, known as IDENT, which resulted in a positive identification. The CJIS Division responded to the contributor with the subject's identifying information, as well as the contact information provided in the DHS's IDENT.

Public Access Line
On the front line

"I just wanted to express my appreciation for your great work. Our law enforcement partners are safer because of your contributions." That praise by a staff member at the FBI's Cleveland Field Office highlights the importance of effectively sifting through hundreds of calls or e-mails and identifying the significance of one seemingly innocuous tip.

Staff with the FBI's Public Access Line (PAL) are prepared to assist concerned citizens 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. PAL is a centralized service for individuals who want to speak with an FBI employee or submit an electronic tip (E-Tip)

regarding ongoing or potential crimes. Members of the PAL team remain vigilant as they review more than 3,600 tips per day, knowing that any one of them could possibly be the key to solving a crime or saving a life.

In fiscal year (FY) 2018, PAL worked toward hiring additional staff members and supervisors to increase efficiency in handling the more than 1.3 million calls and E-Tips that come in annually. In addition, a quality management program was implemented by PAL to review accuracy and quality by assessing employee skills and proactively identifying gaps in processes and procedures during and after an encounter with a caller.

PAL also provided database access to all FBI field offices, which will allow field office personnel to review PAL holdings and share information with state and local law enforcement partners.

On the horizon

More changes are coming to PAL in FY 2019. First, new speech-to-text technology provides digital transcripts of calls to help evaluate the call's priority. Also, PAL's new training program will further enhance staff member's ability to assess and process tips. The training program will include scenario-based modules and quarterly refresher training for all employees.

Tip thwarts ATM bombing plot

In January, a concerned citizen called to notify PAL about a notebook the caller found at a bus stop in Seattle, Washington. The notebook contained information the caller determined to be troubling, including content regarding improvised explosives and planned thefts from automated teller machines (ATMs). Local police identified the author, a former employee of a computer software company who was now homeless. The man planned to blow up ATMs and steal the cash. Officers ultimately located the man in a stolen vehicle, and he was in possession of improvised explosives and components for a remote-controlled explosive device. The subject was arrested and eventually convicted on eight felony charges. An official with the FBI's Seattle Field Office noted that "it all started with a phone call to [PAL] from a citizen concerned about a notebook found at a bus stop. Thank you for your work."

Information Technology Services

The CJIS IT backbone, working behind the scenes and in the cloud

When officers run license plates at a traffic stop or agencies submit fingerprints and background data before hiring a potential employee, they put faith in the programs and systems at the CJIS Division to get results accurately and quickly. However, none of the division's services would be possible without the information technology (IT) staff at the CJIS Division working behind the scenes to keep the systems at top efficiency.

Managing CJIS systems

CJIS IT staff operate and maintain all of the division's law enforcement programs and systems. The amount of data stored and number of users and transactions continue to increase. The CJIS IT staff works 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to ensure the systems are able to bear constantly expanding workloads while also adding new features and enhancements that make CJIS systems more efficient and valuable. During fiscal year (FY) 2018, the systems at the CJIS Division were operational for an average of 99.9 percent of the time, ensuring system stability for the division's partners.

Building a better product with agile development

CJIS IT made a significant change to its processes in FY 2018 by adopting the agile software development approach. As the name implies, agile is a process that advocates for adaptive planning, focuses on prioritizing the most valuable services and enhancements, and provides for rapid responses to change. Specifically, the Scaled Agile Framework method that places a greater emphasis on both lean and agile process improvement will reduce time-to-market for customer-selected changes and replace an outdated, time-consuming development method.

Better connecting field offices to PAL

In FY 2018, the IT staff assisted the CJIS Division's Public Access Line (PAL) by improving a PAL application that provided all 56 FBI field offices with the ability to access PAL data. The application included a "power search" capability to allow users to find past complainants and previous tips more quickly and easily.

Sunny outlook with the cloud

The CJIS IT group has led the way, alongside the Information Technology Branch and the Office of the Chief Information Officer, to acquire the first ever FBI Authority to Operate for

unclassified public cloud infrastructure and transport. Using a cloud environment allows information storage and processing capabilities to be hosted in a flexible, accessible network space. The foray into the cloud has been an evolving process over the past five years when the FBI committed to a "cloud first" strategy and began migrating databases to a secure but unclassified cloud environment.

In FY 2018, the CJIS Division's IT services successfully tested several systems and databases, including Next Generation Identification, National Data Exchange, Law Enforcement Enterprise Portal, and the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, in the commercial cloud space. These continuing tests will eventually lead to ease of access and full disaster recoverability of FBI and CJIS Programs for law enforcement partners.

CJIS Advisory Policy Board

Working together for the common good

The CJIS Advisory Policy Board (APB) is a collaboration of 35 professionals, representing varied criminal justice agencies across the United States, who meet at least twice per calendar year to provide guidance on CJIS policy and operational or technical issues.

At its December 2017 meeting in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, more than 300 individuals attended from across the country. Several recommendations for the FBI Director resulted from the meeting, including the following:

- Adding the ability to capture information about recorded police contacts with the public to Uniform Crime Reporting Program's annual police employee data collection. The collection should include the ability to discern the most common types of calls for service or officer-initiated actions recorded by the agency. The information could be used for law enforcement training.

- Requiring state/agency staff to complete CJIS Systems Agency/State Identification Bureau approved training prior to conducting face recognition searches of the Next Generation Identification System.

- Creating a CJIS Advisory Process review procedure that is agile-friendly to support the development approach for the

National Crime Information Center (NCIC) Third Generation (N3G) project. The agile approach focuses on frequent collaboration between the N3G team and NCIC customers, ensuring this effort is user-driven and responsive to the needs of the criminal justice community. This approach will exceed traditional stakeholder engagement by providing additional secondary reviews of functionality before delivery.

- Endorsing 165 N3G Project functional requirements to improve and modernize NCIC features such as system searches, outbound communication, and record content. Examples include enhanced capabilities for statistical and analytical reporting, expanded offline search access for local agencies, giving them the ability to conduct their own offline searches to determine if a person or vehicle has been the subject of a previous NCIC inquiry.

Also during the fiscal year, the FBI Director received recommendations from the CJIS APB to issue guidance on the limited use of Rapid DNA devices and include specific prohibition against enrolling and searching crime scene evidence in the Combined DNA Index System developed from the devices. The APB also clarified the sharing of criminal history record information for deceased individual's records.

During the meetings, the APB honored the dedicated service of four members retiring from their agencies. Retirees this year were Mr. James S. Buckley Jr., U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Clarksburg, West Virginia; Sheriff Clifford Brophy,

Stillwater County, Columbus, Montana; Chief Dawn Peck, Criminal Identification Bureau, Idaho State Police; and Sheriff Mark Marshall, Isle of Wright County, Isle of Wright, Virginia. Each served in multiple, important roles in the advisory process for more than a decade and were presented with a certificate from the FBI Director in appreciation for their participation and contributions.

National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact Council

Helping to ensure the balance between public safety and privacy

Imagine the impact if authorized agencies had access to up-to-date and complete criminal history record information (CHRI) for noncriminal justice purposes. Background checks for adoptions and employment could be resolved sooner, as agencies would have answers regarding criminal history at their fingertips. The National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact (Compact) Council, which oversees the state ratifications of the Compact Act of 1998, aims to make this level of information sharing a reality.

The Compact Council, comprised of 15 representatives from state and federal justice agencies from around the country, works with states and federal agencies to facilitate the sharing of CHRI for noncriminal justice purposes. The Compact Council establishes rules and procedures governing the use of CHRI for actions such as screening for employment and licensing. These rules and procedures ensure a balance between public safety and the individual's privacy.

When a state ratifies the Compact, it agrees to provide its records for noncriminal justice purposes, with a focus on complete records and dispositions. In addition, Compact states are required to join the National Fingerprint File (NFF) Program. The NFF Program is the final stage of the decentralization of criminal history records—making the state, rather than the FBI, responsible for the maintenance and dissemination of its records.

In 2018, the Compact Council continued its outreach efforts to increase Compact ratification. This year, Utah and Louisiana ratified the Compact, bringing the total participants to 33 states. In addition, Delaware executed a memorandum of understanding with the Compact Council voluntarily acknowledging the Compact Council's rules, policies, and procedures.

This past spring, the Compact Council hosted a Compact Ratification Symposium, which consisted of several sessions focused on the benefits of as well as the process of ratifying the Compact. Eleven states that had yet to ratify the Compact participated in the symposium.

The Future of the National Fingerprint File Program

During fiscal year (FY) 2018, the Compact Council approved a new method for a state to participate in the NFF Program, the Alternate-NFF (A-NFF) concept. The A-NFF offers Compact signatory states the opportunity to join the NFF Program more quickly by alleviating several cumbersome computer programming issues. It is also cost effective, saving set-up time and investment in programming. Due to the continued collaboration between the Compact Council and the FBI's CJIS Division, states will be able to join the NFF Program using the A-NFF method in FY 2019.

Our Campus

Nestled in the scenic hills of West Virginia near Clarksburg is the 990-acre campus of the FBI's CJIS Division. The CJIS Main building is comprised of 528,000 square feet of office space and the Biometric Technology Center (BTC) adds an additional 360,000 square feet. The campus also includes a childcare facility, a central power plant, and a service center.

CJIS employees can enjoy a stroll, lunch al fresco, or a brisk run within the vast complex—often experiencing a wide variety of wildlife along the way. CJIS Main, the original building housing the division since 1995, and the BTC, completed in 2015, each house a fitness center and a cafeteria; CJIS Main also boasts an auditorium as well as employee and visitor atriums.

This facility is the hub for law enforcement and criminal justice agencies from across the nation to access the many CJIS programs. Some of the services provided by the CJIS Division include background checks for firearm purchases, the public access tip line, fingerprint identification, face recognition services, crime statistics, and law enforcement information sharing.

Annually, the CJIS Division hosts a variety of special events for employees and their families, the law enforcement community, and the public. Events like the Fallen West Virginia Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Ceremony, the FBI Jerry Dove Memorial 5K Run, FBI-Clarksburg Family Day, FBI Citizens' Academy, and the Junior Special Agents Program keep CJIS staff working as a team and fully involved in their local community.

Runners at the 2018 Jerry Dove Memorial 5K. The annual race honors West Virginia native and FBI Special Agent Jerry Dove. Dove died in the line of duty in 1986.

Criminal Justice Information Services Division
1000 Custer Hollow Road
Clarksburg, WV 26306

Scan the following QR codes with your smartphone or tablet to learn more about:

FBI's CJIS Division Online

The CJIS Division, or you can visit <www.fbi.gov/services/cjis>.

Today's FBI

The Federal Bureau of Investigation, or you can visit <www.fbi.gov>.